

of the body in nineteen rows. Ventral shields 163; anal entire; subcaudals 58.

Entirely lemon-coloured; some greenish scales are scattered about on the upper surface of the body.

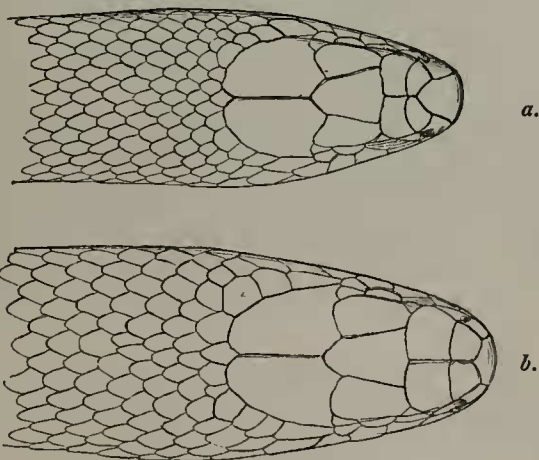
Total length 14 inches; head $\frac{2}{3}$ inch; tail $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

3. NOTE ON DIEMENNIA SUPERCILIOSA. BY DR. A. GÜNTHER.

The Proceedings of this Society of last year* contain a very interesting observation of Mr. Krefft, of Sydney, according to which a small banded Snake, which he identifies with *Furina textilis*, Dum. & Bibr., is merely the young of a very large species, the adult of which is of a nearly uniform coloration. Mr. Krefft (who, for the benefit of the collection entrusted to his care, is very anxious to have his specimens identified with the types contained in European collections) has sent us an old and two young examples of this Snake; and having re-examined the species of *Diemennia* and the literature referring to them, I am enabled to settle some points on which doubts have been entertained.

The young specimens, then, found by Mr. Krefft do not belong to *Furina textilis*, Dum. & Bibr., which has three posterior oculars, but to *Diemennia annulata*, described by myself in the 'Catalogue of Colubrine Snakes,' p. 213; and the old individual sent by Mr. Krefft is identical with *Pseudoëlaps superciliosus*, Fisch. M. Jan, of Milan (who says that he has examined the Snakes of the Hamburg Museum), describes the adult Snake under two names, *Pseudoëlaps sordellii* and *Ps. kubingii*, the latter being founded on an accidental variety, in which some of the head-shields are confluent.

Mr. Krefft, in a letter addressed to me, alludes to *Pseudonaja nuchalis* as a species which, perhaps, might be identical with an old *Diemennia superciliosa*. These, however, differ *toto cælo*, as may



* Proc. Zool. Soc. 1862, p. 149.

be seen from the description given by myself (Colubr. Sn. p. 227), and from the figures (*antea*, p. 17), where fig. *a* represents the head-shields of *Pseudonaia nuchalis*, and fig. *b* those of *Diemennia superciliosa*.

The synonymy of this species, therefore, would be :—

DIEMENNIA SUPERCILIOSA.

a. *Adult*.

1856. *Pseudoelaps superciliosus*, Fischer in Abhandl. Geb. Naturwiss. iii. p. 107, taf. 2. fig. 3 (head, not quite correct).

1859. *Pseudoelaps sordellii*, Jan in Rev. & Mag. Zool. 1859, pl. C (head).

1859. *Pseudoelaps kubingii*, Jan, *l. c.* (founded on an accidental variety).

b. *Young*.

1858. *Diemansia annulata*, Günth. Colubr. Snak. p. 213.

1862. *Furina textilis*, Krefft, P. Z. S. 1862, p. 149.

4. LIST OF BIRDS COLLECTED IN THE ISLAND OF BOURU (ONE OF THE MOLUCCAS), WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF THE NEW SPECIES. BY ALFRED R. WALLACE, F.Z.S.

(Plates IV., V., VI.)

This collection of birds was made by myself during two months of the year 1861. It consists of *sixty-six* species, among which were no less than *seventeen* new ones. Of these, *three* were found about the same time in the Island of Sula, and, with a new *Pitta*, have already been described in the Society's 'Proceedings,' leaving *thirteen* to be described in the present paper.

In my paper "On the Birds of the Sula Islands," read before the Society at their last Meeting, I pointed out that the large proportion of purely Celebes forms found there forced us to the conclusion that a closer connexion had once existed between those islands and Celebes, and required us to class them as forming a single zoological group. The Island of Bouru must, on the contrary, be classed with the Moluccas; for, leaving out about *twenty* species of rather wide distribution, the remaining *forty-six* are all either identical with, or most nearly allied to, Moluccan species. Not a single characteristic Celebes form is found in Bouru; and there are only *three* birds in the island whose affinities seem rather with the Indian than the Australian region, viz. *Alcedo moluccensis*, *Hirundo javanica*, and *Treron aromatica*.

Bouru is therefore the western limit of the Moluccan fauna, and is the poorest portion of it, having several very remarkable deficiencies. *Lorius*, found in every other island of the Moluccas and New Guinea, is absent; *Cacatua*, found in every island of the Australian region, is also absent; and, stranger still, *Buceros* and *Corvus*, found in almost every large island of the archipelago, are both wanting.